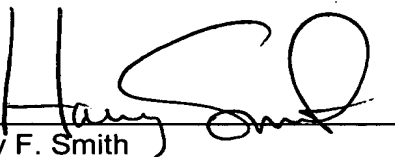


**REMARKS**

This amendment removes the multiple dependencies from the claims. The amendment was not made for reasons related to patentability, and the full range of equivalents for all of the elements of the amended claims, as well as for all of the other claims, should remain intact.

A favorable consideration that results in the allowance of all of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted:



Harry F. Smith

Reg. No.: 32,493

**Customer No.: 29683**

HARRINGTON & SMITH, LLP

4 Research Drive

Shelton, CT 06484-6212

Telephone: (203) 925-9400

Facsimile: (203) 944-0245

12/30/2003  
Date